

**Amendments To The Specification**

Please replace the paragraph in the specification at page 29, lines 8-19 with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 9 through 11 are detailed block diagrams showing the reinforcement encoder 411 of Fig. 4 in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 9 presents the reinforcement encoder **[[415]] 411** encoding robust data into 2-bit ( $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ) normal/robust data so as to output 4-level signals of  $\{-5, -3, 1, 7\}$ . Fig. 10 shows the reinforcement encoder encoding robust data into 2-bit ( $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ) normal/robust data so as to output 4-level signals of  $\{-7, -1, 3, 5\}$ . Fig. 11 shows the reinforcement encoder encoding robust data into 2-bit ( $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ) normal/robust data so as to output 4-level signals of  $\{-5, -3, 1, 7\}$  or  $\{-7, -1, 3, 5\}$  selectively.